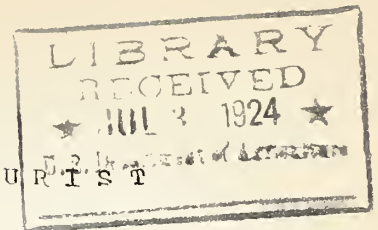


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THE EXTENSION HORTICULTURIST

July 1, 1924.

*
* There should be concerted movement among ex- *
* tension fruit men to reduce the number of commercial *
* varieties of all kinds of fruits now being grown, *
* particularly apples. A few of the states are pushing *
* a standard list of about ten varieties of apples to *
* cover the entire season. We would like each extension *
* fruit man to send us for the August "Extension Horti- *
* culturist" a list of from eight to twelve names of *
* apples which he considers best for commercial use in *
* his state. At the same time will those in states which *
* grow peaches commercially send a short list of their *
* best commercial varieties? Since varieties do not *
* recognize state boundaries perhaps we can adopt *
* groups of varieties for districts or groups of states. *
* The reports requested on fruit crop pros- *
* pects as of June 25 appear in this issue. *
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Office of Horticultural Investigations
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U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

Fruit Crop Prospects.

The fruit crop forecasts which have been received in response to our request for estimates as of June 25, appear in this issue. We hope for as good a response from our request for short lists of standard commercial varieties of apples and peaches from each state where these fruits are grown. Please send in these lists early in July.

Maine - Apples promise 80 per cent of a full crop and strawberries a full crop. A. K. Gardner.

Connecticut - Apples and peaches are 90 per cent of a full crop. Grapes, cherries and plums are a full crop. W. H. Darrow.

Rhode Island - Rather early to determine the size of crop now but apples, pears, peaches and cherries promise better than an average crop. A. E. Stene.

Maryland - Fair crop of apples in western Maryland but Yellow Transparent, Stayman Winesap, Ben Davis and York Imperial are light. Nearly a full crop of apples on the Eastern Shore, except Ben Davis and York Imperial. Grimes promises a crop throughout the entire state. Peaches promise a good crop on the Eastern Shore and also in western Maryland in well kept orchards. S. B. Shaw.

West Virginia - The apple crop is about 60 per cent for the whole state. In the eastern panhandle section it is 55 per cent with York Imperial and Ben Davis light. In the northern panhandle it is about 65 per cent and in the southern half of the state it is 85 per cent of normal. The peach crop is about 85 per cent of normal. T. D. Gray.

North Carolina - The fruit crop report will be issued later. At present the prospect is for a very good fruit crop. The commercial peach crop will be about 2,500 cars. C. D. Matthews.

South Carolina - Apples are 95 per cent of a normal crop, peaches from 85 to 90 per cent, cherries 100 per cent, dewberries 100 per cent and pecans 80 to 90 per cent. The commercial dewberry crop this year was 30 cars. The commercial peach crop will be about 200 cars. A. E. Schilleter.

Mississippi - Season about two weeks late but apples, pears, plums and peaches promise a normal crop. The citrus fruits were badly injured by cold weather. Lyle Brown.

Louisiana - The statistician of the Federal Bureau of Agricultural Statistics in New Orleans furnished the following figures on fruit conditions as of June 1: Peaches 80 per cent, pears 75 per cent, apples 70 per cent. These are somewhat higher averages than the 10-year average of peaches and pears and 5-year average of apples. Pecans promise 76 per cent of a full crop. G. L. Tiebout.

Georgia - Georgia will ship 12,000 cars of peaches of good size and excellent quality. About 300 cars of apples will be shipped out of northeast Georgia, being a gain of 100 cars over 1923. Pecans set heavily but the case bearer is doing injury in some sections. G. H. Firor.

Arkansas - Apples promise 75 per cent, peaches 98 per cent, plums 80 per cent, cherries 100 per cent, grapes 75 per cent and strawberries 50 per cent of a full crop. C. Woolsey.

Texas - Apples are averaging about 73 per cent, peaches 65 per cent, blackberries 91 per cent and pecans 78 per cent of a full crop. A. P. Swallow.

Ohio - Still too early to make a definite estimate of the apple crop. Baldwin bloom was light in northern Ohio and Rome Beauty is hardly half a crop in southern Ohio. It appears now that the late crop will be much smaller than last year. The early apple crop is quite satisfactory. Sour cherries are a bumper crop. The Ottawa County peach crop is almost a total failure except for a sprinkling of Lemon Free and Champion. F. H. Beach.

Indiana - Peach fruit buds were destroyed last winter, except in the southern two tiers of counties where some varieties have a full crop. Farm apple orchards promise one-fourth of a crop. Commercial apple prospects are spotted but promise 50 to 60 per cent of a crop in southern Indiana with Yellow Transparent, Oldenburg, Stayman Winesap and Rome Beauty showing up best. Jonathan and Grimes are generally light. Summer varieties average better than others. Raspberries were winter injured and will produce half a crop. Strawberries were seriously hurt by late spring frost. C. L. Burkholder.

Illinois - The general average of the apple crop is 40 per cent although early apples may reach 60 per cent. Jonathan is about 20 per cent of a normal crop. Cherries are about 90 per cent, pears about 70 per cent, grapes 75 per cent, strawberries 80 per cent, raspberries, blackberries, currants and gooseberries from 80 to 90 per cent. The season is from one to two weeks late. W. S. Brock.

Iowa - Summer and fall apples promise 70 per cent of a crop and winter apples 50 per cent, plums 50 per cent, grapes 65 per cent, bush fruits 100 per cent and strawberries 120 per cent of a normal crop. H. E. Nichols.

Kansas - Apples promise 40 per cent, pears 75 per cent, peaches 20 per cent (good crop in southeastern part of state), plums 80 per cent, cherries 80 per cent, grapes 100 per cent, strawberries 100 per cent, blackberries and raspberries 80 per cent of a full crop. L. C. Williams.

Nebraska - Apples promise 65 per cent of a crop, grapes 95 per cent, cherries and plums about 85 per cent and strawberries 100 per cent. E. H. Hoppert.

Oklahoma - The following percentages indicate the prospective fruit crop: Apples 75, except Ben Davis 25, pears 80, peaches 75, plums 75, cherries 80, grapes 75, blackberries 80, and strawberries 85. D. C. Mooring.

Colorado - About 90 per cent of a full crop of apples, pears, peaches and sweet cherries; less than half a crop of sour cherries in the northern district. E. P. Sandsten.

Utah - The following figures are from the report of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics: Apples 75 per cent, pears 77 per cent, peaches 75 per cent, plums and prunes 72 per cent, cherries 42 per cent, apricots 60 per cent, grapes 88 per cent, strawberries 75 per cent, raspberries 86 per cent, dewberries 74 per cent, currants 88 per cent and gooseberries 78 per cent. T. H. Abell.

Wisconsin - Season two weeks late but weather was favorable for set of fruit, except on plums which were later injured by brown rot leaving only 15 per cent of a full crop. Apples are 60 to 70 per cent of a crop but are attacked by scab which may reduce present prospects. Sour cherries promise a full crop. J. G. Moore.

Oregon - Apples in the Hood River Valley, Willamette Valley and Wasco County districts promise a full crop. In Rogue River Valley, Umpqua Valley, Walla Walla Valley, and Baker and Malheur Counties, apples are from 40 to 50 per cent of a full crop. For the entire state the prospect is for 80 per cent of a full crop.

Pears are about half of a commercial crop although the Willamette Valley has a full crop, Walla Walla Valley and Umatilla County no crop, and Rogue River, Umpqua and Hood River Valleys and eastern Oregon have half a crop.

The prune crop estimated at 37,000,000 pounds is 85 per cent of a full crop. Cherries promise 75 per cent of a crop, there is a full crop in western Oregon and a half crop in eastern Oregon.

Loganberries are 50 per cent of a crop. Red raspberries are 90 per cent and black raspberries 80 to 90 per cent of a crop. Early strawberries are 50 per cent and late canning strawberries are 75 per cent of a crop.

European grapes are better than normal and American varieties are about a normal crop. C. L. Long.

California - The following percentages represent the fruit crop prospects: Apples 75 per cent, good bloom but often a poor set; almonds 50 per cent; apricots 60 per cent, cherries 62 per cent, peaches 75 per cent, ranging from 25 per cent in chief canning districts to 95 per cent in early shipping districts, pears 68 per cent, plums 74 per cent, prunes 68 per cent, oranges 90 per cent. It is too early to estimate the crop of grapes and walnuts. W. L. Howard.

Arizona - Apples promise 75 per cent of a full crop, apricots 110 per cent, grapes 100 per cent, oranges 65 per cent and pomelos 90 per cent of a full crop. Late spring frosts were disastrous to apples in some sections. A. F. Kinnison.

Dwarf Apple Trees as Ornamentals.

On page 14 of the June number of "Better Fruit" the title above heads an article discussing "the findings of the horticulturists at the New York Agricultural Experiment Station." Some quotations follow: "Due to the fact that the dwarf trees take less space, a greater variety of fruit can be grown in the garden or small orchard than when standard-sized trees are grown. Dwarf apples also make attractive ornamentals, if properly cared for, and thus add to their usefulness for home planting."

"The dwarf trees are just as healthy and vigorous as normal trees and produce fruit of the same size and quality. Dwarf apples come into bearing slightly earlier than do standard apples, but the difference in this respect is not sufficient to make the dwarf trees any more desirable commercially."

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An Office Caller.

During the first week of June, Mr. E. H. Rawl, Extension Horticulturist in South Carolina with headquarters at Aiken, called at the office. Mr. Rawl was on a short vacation trip in Washington. He reports extension work coming along nicely.

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A Correction.

Mr. H. A. Cardinell has called our attention to an error on Page 5 of the June 1st "Extension Horticulturist." The price of the Springfield Dust Sprayer is \$6.50 instead of \$16.00.

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Horticultural Extension Literature Received During June 1924.

Arkansas - College of Agriculture, Little Rock

Growing Radishes for Northern Markets. Ext. Cir. No. 168, May 1924.

Destroying Peach Tree Borers with Paradichlorobenzene. Ext. Cir. 169, May 1924.

Connecticut Agricultural College - Storrs.

Asparagus. Bulletin No. 71, Feb. 1924.

Delaware - University of - Newark.

Dusting Cantaloupes for the Control of Some Diseases and Insects.

Ext. Cir. No. 16, April 1924.

Missouri - University of - Columbia.

The Calyx Spray for Apples, Pears and Quinces. Cir. 143, April 1924.

The Third Summer Spray for Apples. Cir 144, April 1924.

Fourth and Fifth Summer Sprays for Apples. Cir. 147, May 1924.

New York - Cornell University - Ithaca.

Spring Flowers - Rural School Leaflet - Vol. 16, No. 4, March 1923.

Oregon Agricultural College - Corvallis

The Value and Use of Prunes. Ext. Bul. 373, April 1924.

Rhode Island State College - Kingston

Strawberries in Rhode Island. Ext. Bul. No. 36, April 1924.

South Carolina - Clemson Agricultural College, Clemson College, P. C.
 Lawns for South Carolina. Ext. Cir. 56, Oct. 1923.
 South Dakota State College - Brookings.
 Spraying the Potato Crop. Ext. Cir. No. 143.
 Spraying the Home Orchard. Ext. Leaflet No. 25, July 1923.
 Vermont - University of - Burlington.
 Sprayers and Spray Equipment for Orchard and Garden. Cir. 30, Apr. 1924
 Wisconsin - University of - Madison.
 Control Apple Fire Blight. Stencil Bul. 78, June 1924.

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Fruit and Vegetable Conditions in the Eastern Section.

During the period from June 9 to 28, Mr. Beattie covered the greater portion of the territory from Norfolk, Virginia, to northern New Jersey, for the most part by automobile visiting a large number of fruit and truck farms. The Norfolk section in common with the middle Atlantic coast generally has suffered from too much rain and unusual low temperatures. Potatoes in this section have made a fair growth but have suffered on poorly drained land. Eggplant and peppers were in very poor condition.

Strawberries were moving heavily from the Eastern Shore of Maryland and the entire State of Delaware from the 12th to the 20th, the season being approximately two weeks late. Early potatoes are just beginning to move from the Eastern Shore of Virginia near Cape Charles. Sweet potato planting had not been completed and considerable replanting was necessary. Tomatoes, both early and those planted for the cannery, in eastern Maryland and Delaware are very late and have been seriously injured by cutworms and potato bugs. The early tomato crop around Swedesboro, N. J. is looking fine and while a little later than usual is very promising. Tomatoes planted for the canneries in New Jersey, however, are extremely late. The potato crop in New Jersey is making excellent growth, except on low ground that has been flooded. In a few cases poor stands have resulted from the rotting of the seed potatoes in the ground. Beans are extremely backward. Peas for the cannery are making good yields where a stand was secured but in many sections not more than one-half of a stand was obtained. Truck crops in northern New Jersey are in better condition than in other sections visited. In the Philadelphia section of Pennsylvania, truck crops have been greatly retarded, especially on the heavier soils. Throughout the region visited truck crops are weedy, due to the continued wet weather and the impossibility of giving them proper cultivation.

Fruit crops of this region are promising. The quality and price of strawberries have been low and the rains have interfered with the gathering of the crop. Large quantities of strawberries have been "cold processed." Peaches are a bumper crop throughout the section, but will be a trifle late. Sour cherries are a heavy crop everywhere and are coming through in fine shape while sweet cherries are rotting considerably. Keiffer pears are well set with fruit while other varieties bear a moderate to heavy crop. Dewberries, blackberries, red raspberries and other small fruits are all carrying a heavy crop. Excessive rainfall has made it very difficult to do spraying or dusting effectively. The Seabrook Farms Company at Bridgeton, N. J. has equipped their dusters with Prestolyte spotlights in order to carry on dusting work at night. Mr. Ola, the orchard manager, has found the atmospheric conditions at night much better adapted to the effective distribution of the dust sprays than daylight conditions. Mr. C. H. Nissley, in Charge of the Vegetable Extension Work in N. J., has recently adapted a one-horse cotton

duster for dusting truck crops and is conducting numerous demonstrations carrying this equipment from one county to another in the tonneau of his automobile. Walter Nissley, Vegetable Specialist in Pa., is doing some very effective work in demonstrating the value of certified seed potatoes and of high grade seeds generally. Mr. C. R. Mason, who is associated with Mr. Nissley, is giving his entire time to farm vegetable garden demonstrations in which careful cost and production accounts are being kept. It was a real pleasure to see how much the farmers themselves are interested in this matter.

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The following reports came too late to be placed with the others:

New York - Season very late and June drop ^{not} ended. Most early apples promise a full crop. Baldwin 35%, Rhode Island Greening 70% and McIntosh, Tompkins King, Twenty Ounce and Hubbardston 85% of a normal crop. Pears average 55% of a crop, sour cherries 65%, sweet cherries 75%, grapes 95%, strawberries 90%, other small fruits 85%. G. W. Peck.

Minnesota - Apples are 80% or better, plums 50%, raspberries 75% and strawberries 100% of a full crop. W. G. Brierley.

Washington - Very heavy frosts in April and May together with dry weather this spring have cut the fruit crops to the following approximate percentages: Apples 60, pears 50, Peaches 30, cherries 40, strawberries 40 and raspberries 80. M. D. Armstrong.

Massachusetts - Baldwin has a fairly good set and other varieties, particularly the early ones, promise a good crop. The peach crop is light. F. E. Cole.

Kentucky - Early apples 75%, late apples 84% peaches 88% with a full crop in some sections, pears 55%, plums 78%, sour cherries 97%, sweet cherries 91%, blackberries 92%, red raspberries 86%, black raspberries 84%, currants 82%, gooseberries 80%. The strawberry crop is harvested and was 72% of a full crop. C. W. Mathews.

Vermont - McIntosh, Fameuse, Banana, Delicious, Tolman and Wealthy promise about 85% and Northern Spy and Rhode Island Greening about 60% of a full crop. The general average for the state is probably better than 75% of a crop of apples. M. B. Cummings.

Pennsylvania - On June 1 the State Crop Report Service reported apples at 89%, pears at 88% and peaches at 84% of a normal crop. York Imperial is light and Jonathan and Smokehouse are heavily loaded. Peaches are a heavy crop, except in central and northern parts of the state. Paul Thayer.

Idaho - Bloom was generally light this year and spring frosts did serious injury in some districts so the crop of different fruits is spotted. Apples are 56% of a crop, prunes 55%, peaches 30%, apricots from light to heavy crop, sweet cherries badly injured, except where protected by orchard heaters. E. R. Bennett.

W. R. Ecuttie,
C. P. Cleso,

Extension Horticulturists.

